

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 1455

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, TU

SUBJ: CIVAIR: TURKISH AND US PROPOSALS ON CAPACITY PROCEDURES

REF: STATE 66988, APRIL 4, 1974

1. SOYLEMEZ, DIRECTOR, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DEPARTMENT, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA), DURING DISCUSSION ON OTHER MATTERS WITH DCM FEBRUARY 19 REFERRED TO MOST RECENT US VIEWS ON CAPACITY PROCEDURES WHICH WERE CONVEYED TO HIM BY THIS EMBASSY LAST APRIL AS SET FORTH IN REFTEL. SOYLEMEZ SAID THAT WHAT HE HAD TO SAY WAS PURELY A PERSONAL INITIATIVE. HE EXPECTS THAT MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (DG CIVIL AVIATION) WHICH HAS CONSULTED WITH THY WILL IN NEXT FEW DAYS SEND MFA PROPOSED RESPONSE TO US POSITION. HE UNDERSTANDS THIS WILL BE STRONG AND NEGATIVE. SOYLEMEZ SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO AVOID HAVING TO SEND NEGATIVE REPLY TO US IN VIEW OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS US-TURKISH RELATIONS AND WOULD LIKE TO GET THIS ISSUE ON POSITIVE TRACK AGAIN. HE IS PREPARED TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY OF HOLDING UP ON REPLY TO US TO ALLOW TIME FOR MORE FAVORABLE DEVELOPMENT. HE THEREFORE SUGGESTED THAT IT WOULD HELP IF US SIDE COULD IN MEANTIME RECONSIDER ITS POSITION ON CAPACITY ISSUE AND IF US (MEADOWS) WOULD SEND HIM NEW "MORE CONCILIATORY" PROPOSAL. WHEN WE ASKED SOYLEMEZ SPECIFICALLY WHAT POINTS HE HAD IN MIND, HE SAID, "MEADOWS KNOWS WHAT OUR VIEWS

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ARE AND HE COULD SEND US A MORE MIDDLE-OF-THE-ROAD PROPOSAL."

SOYLEMEZ AGAIN STRESSED THAT THIS SUGGESTION WAS PURELY HIS INITIATIVE AND NOT RPT NOT KNOWN TO OTHER TURKISH OFFICIALS. WITH A NEW US PROPOSAL, MORE IN DIRECTION OF TURKISH POSITION, HE SAID IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO COMPLETE WHOLE NEW AGREEMENT IN SHORT TIME IN FRIENDLY WAY.

2. COMMENT: INASMUCH AS SOYLEMEZ HAS MADE "PERSONAL" PROPOSAL, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF DEPARTMENT COULD SEND HIM SOME SORT OF MESSAGE THAT MIGHT PERMIT HIM TO HOLD OFF ON REPLY TO OUR MESSAGE OF LAST APRIL. SOYLEMEZ, AS REPORTED ABOVE, WAS NOT PREPARED TO GIVE US IDEA OF SPECIFICS. OUR PAST EXPERIENCE HAS SHOWN THAT, PROBABLY BECAUSE OF HIS BROAD RESPONSIBILITIES, HE HAS NOT RPT NOT HAD GOOD GRASP ON SPECIFIC ISSUES. SINCE FORWARDING US COMMENTS TO SOYLEMEZ LAST APRIL WE HAVE NOT RPT NOT DISCUSSED BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH GOT BECAUSE OF OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT WASHINGTON PREFERRED DEAL WITH OTHER BROADER CIVIL AVIATION ISSUES BEFORE PUSHING AHEAD WITH NEGOTIATIONS WITH GOT.

RAISING OF PROBLEM OF OUR BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS AT THIS TIME QUITE POSSIBLY IS ATTRIBUTABLE TO GENERAL REVIEW WITHIN GOT OF ALL OUTSTANDING ISSUES BETWEEN US AND TURKEY, AS CONSEQUENCE OF ACTION BY US CONGRESS CUTTING OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY. (ON OTHER HAND, US-GOT BILATERAL MAY HAVE BEEN ALLOWED TO BE DORMANT UNTIL NOW SIMPLY BECAUSE GOT PERSONNEL HAVE DURING PAST YEAR BEEN INVOLVED INCONCLUSION OF CIVIL AIR AGREEMENTS WITH SEVERAL OTHER COUNTRIES, INCLUDING PRC, EAST GERMANY, LIBYA, ETC.)

IF USG IS UNABLE OR UNWILLING TO MAKE NEW SUBSTANTIVE PROPOSALS TO GOT AS SOYLEMEZ IS SUGGESTING, PERHAPS HIS PURPOSE COULD BE SERVED JUST AS WELL BY MESSAGE SUGGESTING THAT WE LOOK FORWARD TO SOME (SPECIFIC) OPPORTUNITY IN THE FUTURE THAT WILL ENABLE US TO DISCUSS THE MATTER AGAIN. (ANY SUCH MESSAGE SHOULD OF COURSE AVOID REFERENCE TO SOYLEMEZ "PERSONAL" SUGGESTION.)

3. EMBASSY WOULD IN ANY EVENT APPRECIATE SOME WORD TO GIVE TO SOYLEMEZ REGARDING THE LIKELIHOOD THAT USG MAY BE ABLE TO DO SOMETHING ALONG LINES OF HIS SUGGESTION.

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